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SUBJECT= TAIWAN'S PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL REACTION TO -- HAIG VISIT

REFERENCE= n/a

CONTROL_NBR= n/a

ENCLOSURE= n/a

LOCATOR= TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

ERRORS= N/A

CONCEPTS= FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS

TAGS= OVIP, PEPR, TW, CH, US, STATE, (HAIG, ALEXANDER M JR)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE		IS/FPC/CDR <u>TRTB</u> Date: <u>12/5/96</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	MR Cases Only:
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCISE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	EO Citations
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ACTION AIT-02

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 EA-10 ICA-11
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FM AIT TAIPEI
TO AIT WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MANILA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, TW, CH
SUBJECT: TAIWAN'S PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL REACTION TO
-- HAIG VISIT

1. FOR SOME MONTHS TAIWAN'S LEADERSHIP HAS REFRAINED FROM OFFICIAL COMMENT ON U.S. ACTIONS CONCERNING THE PRC AND TAIWAN, BUT ON JUNE 15 AN INTERVIEW WAS GRANTED TO AP WRITER TINA CHOU BY A "HIGH RANKING FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL." (WE UNDERSTAND THE OFFICIAL WAS POLITICAL VICE MINISTER FRED CHIEN, ACCOMPANIED BY C.J. CHENG, DIRECTOR OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS.) WE PRESUME THAT THE TEXT OF THE STORY ENTITLED "TAIWAN OFFICIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT HAIG VISIT" IS AVAILABLE TO ADDRESSEES. THE INTERVIEW, WHICH EXPRESSED TAIWAN'S WELL KNOWN CONCERNS, WAS IN Milder TERMS THAN WHAT CHIEN HAS RECENTLY BEEN SAYING TO VISITING JOURNALISTS. HE TOLD NYT CORRESPONDENT HENRY KAMM RECENTLY THAT TAIWAN WAS LOSING ITS PATIENCE WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REAGAN ADMINISTRATION AND HE TOLD THE FEER STRINGER "HE HOPED THE USG SEES THAT ANY DEALINGS OR DISCUSSIONS ABOUT TAIWAN SHOULDN'T BE CONDUCTED BEHIND ITS BACK."

2. THE NEXT INSTALLMENT WILL BE A SET OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING SECRETARY HAIG'S STATEMENT AND NEWS CONFERENCE IN BEIJING AND THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE 16 NEWS CONFERENCE REMARKS CONCERNING CHINA AND TAIWAN. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE Q AND A'S WILL BE RELEASED JUNE 17 OR THE MORNING OF JUNE 18 AT THE LATEST.

3. COMMENTS. A CABINET MINISTER TOLD US THAT THE HAIG VISIT TO THE PRC WAS THE MAJOR WORRY OF THE LEADERSHIP, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT. THEY WISHED THEIR FRIENDS IN THE US TO BE SUFFICIENTLY AWARE OF THEIR WORRY SO THAT THEY WOULD STIMULATE STATEMENTS SUPPORTING TAIWAN-- BUT AT THE SAME TIME THEY WISHED TO AVOID LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE WHICH WOULD REVEAL THEIR ANXIETY TO THE LOCAL POPULATION. IT LOOKS NOW AS THOUGH THE CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE US HAS OUTWEIGHED THE DESIRE TO KEEP THE LOCAL POPULATION REASSURED. THOMAS

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